## Message Text

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**ACTION AF-08** 

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PR 161035Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4932

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, OGEN

SUBJ: CONSULAR CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 170008

- 1. EMBASSY DESIGNATES JOSEPH M. SEGARS, CONSUL AT CONGEN JOHANNESBURG TO REPRESENT S.A. POSTS AT CONSULAR CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI SEPTEMBER 27-30.
- 2. BASED ON CONSULTATIONS WITH ALL OF OUR CONSULAR OFFICERS, PROBLEMS LISTED BELOW ARE SUGGESTED FOR POSSIBLE DISCUSSION.
- 3. PROBLEM OF PROSPECTIVE IMMIGRANTS AS INVESTORS. HOW TO HANDLE POTENTIAL IMMIGRANTS WHO WISH TO QUALIFY AS INVESTORS IN THE U.S. IS QUESTION CONCERNING ALL OUR POSTS. JOHANNESBURG ALONE HAS DEALT WITH OVER 1,000 SUCH CASES SINCE INCEPTION OF INVESTOR CLAUSE IN 1973. FOLLOWING ARE MORE SERIOUS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMON CONCERNS ON THIS QUESTION.

A. BECAUSE INVESTOR CLAUSE OPENS UP NEW AVENUE FOR FRAUD, WHAT STEPS CAN BE TAKEN TO GUARD AGAINST THIS POSSIBILITY?

B. CLEARER GUIDELINES ARE NEEDED ON WHAT IS CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE, IRREFUTABLE PROOF THAT ALIEN HAS ACTUALLY INVESTED IN BUSINESS AND HAS REQUISITE EXPERIENCE TO OPERATE IT.

C. SHOULD AALIEN ATTEMPTING TO QUALIFY AS INVESTOR BE PERMITTED TO TRAVEL TO US AS AN NIV IN ORDER TO SET UP OR INVEST IN A BUSINESS?

## 4. PROBLEMS RELATING TO RHODESIA.

A. NIV APPLICATIONS FROM RHODESIAN RESIDENTS ARE INCREASING STEADILY. JOHANNESBURG GETS AVERAGE OF 30 TO 40 PER WEEK, AND ISSUED OVER 500 NIVS SINCE JANUARY. WHILE FSL WITH SOLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR RHODESIAN APPLICANTS CAN HANDLE WORKLOAD, BACKLOGS ARE EXPERIENCED WHEN CASES REFERRED TO DEPARTMENT ARE NOT HANDLED EXPEDITIOUSLY. PUBLIC RELATIONS PROBLEM, ALREADY EXACERBATED BY HIGH REFUSAL RATE, WILL BECOME GREATER IF THIS EXPERIENCE CONTINUES. WORSENING POLITICAL SITUATION IN RHODESIA GENERATES INCREASED NUMBER OF APPLICANTS, WHICH RAISES QUESTION OF BONA FIDES AND NEED FOR PERSONAL INTERVIEWS. SHOULD RHODESIAN APPLICANT BE EXPECTED TO TRAVEL TO JOHANNESBURG AND RISK POSSIBILITY OF BEING REFUSED IF HE OR SHE CANNOT SATISFY INTERVIEWING OFFICER REGARDING INTENTIONS?

B. CONTINGENCY PLANNING IS NEEDED TO DEAL WITH FACT THAT CONSULAR WORKLOAD IS LIKELY TO INCREASE IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO WORSENING POLITICAL SITUATION IN RHODESIA AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN GENERALLY. SHOULD A ROVING CONSULAR OFFICER BE ASSIGNED ON PERMANENT BASIS TO TRAVEL AMONG S.A. AND BLS POSTS AS INCREASING WORKLOADS DICTATE?

C. CONCERN OF AMCITS IN RHODESIA IS ALSO INCREASING AND SEVERAL HAVE REQUESTED ASSISTANCE TO SAFEGUARD OR REMOVE ASSETS IN RHODESIA. THEY ALLEGE THAT RHODESIAN REGIME IS ATTEMPTING TO DECLARE SOME AMERICANS "PROHIBITED IMMIGRANTS" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN ORDER TO ATTACH THEIR ASSETS. SUCH AMERICANS REFUSE TO BELIEVE USG IS UNABLE TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS ON THEIR BEHALF, AND SEVERAL HAVE STATED THAT THEY INTEND TO SEEK ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE FROM CONGRESS.

5. SOUTH AFRICA'S RESTRICTIVE APPROACH TO VISAS AND PASSPORTS.

A. POSTS IN ADJACENT COUNTRIES MAY RAISE THE PROBLEM OF

OBTAINING S.A. VISAS (E.G. MASERU 761). ALTHOUGH WE HAVE OVERCOME MOST CASES OF DISCRIMINATION BASED ON PURELY RACIAL GROUNDS, DIFFICULTY IS STILL EXPERIENCED BY PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN MOST STRONGLY CRITICAL OF SAG IN MEDIA, ACADEMIC, OR POLITICAL FORA. SAG'S LIMITED RESPRESENTATION ABROAD, EXPECIALLY IN AFRICA, AND DELAYS EXPERIENCED IN OBTAINING VISAS BY MAIL CONTINUE TO MAKE IT ADVISABLE FOR MOST AMERICANS TO OBTAIN S.A. VISAS FROM S.A. EMBASSY OR CONSULATES IN THE US WHENEVER POSSIBLE. SOME CONTINUE TO BE REFUSED ON POLITICAL GROUNDS AND LITTLE CAN BE DONE TO OVERCOME THIS THROUGH CONSULAR CHANNELS.

B. SAG RELUCTANCE TO ISSUE PASSPORTS TO NON-WHITES FOR TRAVEL TO THE US REPRESENTS A CONTINUING PROBLEM AND A POTENTIAL IRRITANT IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS BECAUSE OF DELAYS AND CANCELLATIONS CAUSED IN THE TRAVEL OF EXCHANGE PROGRAM GRANTEES. ALTHOUGH WE USUALLY DEAL WITH THE PROBLEMS INITIALLY THROUGH CONSULAR CONTACTS THIS IS ESSENTIALLY A POLITICAL PROBLEM INHERENT IN THE S.A. SITUATION. BOWLDER

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